

HIGH PRICES DUE TO VICIOUS PRACTICES, SAYS PRESIDENT

CONGRESS HEARS PROPOSALS BY PRESIDENT WILSON FOR CHECKING HIGH COST OF LIVING AND UNREST

Permanent Results Not to Be Expected Until Peace Time Basis Restored Says Executive.

RATIFICATION PEACE TREATY NECESSARY

Retailers Are Held Responsible in Large Measure for High Prices By Mr. Wilson in Address.

Washington, Aug. 8.—President Wilson laid several specific proposals before congress today for checking the high cost of living, but at the same time declared that permanent results couldn't be expected until peace time basis is fully restored by ratification of the peace treaty.

High prices, the president said, were not justified by a shortage of supply, either present or prospective, but were created in many cases "artificially and deliberately by vicious practices." "Retailers," he said, "are responsible in large part for the extortionate prices."

"Strikes," the president warned labor, "would only make matters worse and those who sought to employ threats and coercion are only preparing their own destruction."

"Leaders of organized labor," he said, "surely will presently yield to sober second thought." "Illegal" and "criminal" were words used in characterizing methods by which some of the present day prices have been brought about.

Immediate steps by executive agencies of the government, promised by the president, included controlling wheat shipments, credits to facilitate purchase of wheat in such way as not to raise, but rather lower, price of flour at home; sale of surplus stocks of food and clothing in the hands of the government; forced withdrawal from storage and sale of surplus stocks in private hands.

General recommendations included increase in production, careful buying by housewives, fair dealing with people on part of producers, middlemen and merchants; that there be no threats or undue insistence upon the interests of a single class; correction of "many things" in relations between capital and labor in wages and conditions of labor. Concluding his statement, the president made a plea for deliberate intelligent action, reminding congress an unbalanced world is looking to the United States.

Laws will be energetically employed to force out food hoarders, to meet the situation as far as possible, but he urged the following supplements to existing statutes: "Licensing of all corporations engaged in interstate commerce; extension of the food control act to peace times; penalty in the food control act for profiteering; law regulating cold storage and early ratification of the peace treaty."

Washington, Aug. 8.—All day long from the witness chair before the house interstate commerce committee, Glenn Plumb, counsel for the railroad brotherhoods, author of organized labor's plan for tripartite control of railroads, responded to sharp questioning by committee members, who called upon him to explain every phase of the labor bill.

Plumb clung steadfastly to the assertion that the railroad unions aimed to "eliminate the move of operation for profit and to substitute the motive of operation for service," to which he added, corollary, "it means democ-

REPEAL WHEAT PRICES TO AID FARMERS URGED

Senator Norris Declares Middle Men Are Making All the Profit and That Farmers Are Losing.

Washington, August 8.—Repeal of the government price guarantee for wheat, to enable farmers to secure higher prices, was urged at a special meeting today of the senate agriculture committee. Action by the committee was deferred.

Senator Norris, republican, of Nebraska, proposed repeal of the price guarantee and it was endorsed by T. C. Atkeson, Washington representative of the National Grange.

"That is exactly what the farmers are praying for," said he.

Senator Norris, chairman Grinna and other committee members said the wheat price guarantee law has not been carried out. The \$2.25 guarantee, they declared was intended by congress to be the minimum price possible under the law of supply and demand.

Instead they asserted the United Grain Corporation had made the minimum guarantee the maximum price for the farmers. Mr. Atkeson told the committee that the farmer would receive an average of only \$1.50 per bushel for wheat this year. He and Senator Grinna declared that had the government not fixed the price, farmers would receive much more than the guarantee because of the prospective wheat shortage and world demand.

Mr. Atkeson testified that the grain corporation had made large profits from wheat sales that the farmers should have received.

Senator Polinder, republican, of Washington, referring to President Wilson's plan to ask congress for additional legislation to lower the cost of living, said the difficulty of the situation was due largely to government action as war measures.

"The president," he said, "was vested with almost absolute powers to handle the food situation. I am of the opinion that it will not be possible for congress to devise any additional legislation to give the president any greater powers than he has at present to deal with the situation now. The president has dictatorial powers. I think they ought to be repealed, but the fact is that they are not repealed and ought to be used now in this emergency."

Chairman Grinna said government agencies were "refusing to do anything" to lower the cost of living and that congress was not at fault.

John A. McSparran, master of the Pennsylvania Grange, urged an organization to advise the American public of the facts in the food situation as it affects the farmers.

"The department of agriculture should have done it, should have protected us, but it has not done it," said Mr. McSparran.

"The people are 'kicking' at paying \$2.25 for wheat, when they are paying \$36 a bushel in the form of shredded wheat. Corn is selling at \$1.90 and the people are paying \$12 a bushel in the form of toasted corn flakes. The Quaker Oats company made 104 per cent profit on its investment last year."

Senator Norris said there was universal public misconception of the farmers' interest in the food situation.

"The people think the farmers are getting \$2.25 for wheat and they are not," said Mr. Norris.

"The people do not know they are paying enormous profits to the middle man."

A proposal by Senator Norris that Chairman Grinna and the representatives of the Grange organization issue a statement to the public giving the exact facts of the food situation was approved by the committee.

"The grange representatives told the committee that the newspapers now were cooperating in giving publicity to statements of the farmers' interests."

"Senator Norris said he thought it would be a good idea to introduce a bill for repeal of 'every vestige of

STUCK!



STOCK YARDS MAY BE TIED UP BY STRIKE

Employment of Non-Union Negroes Reported Cause of Trouble—Presence of Guards Resented.

Chicago, August 8.—Approximately 22,000 workers affiliated with 42 unions were scheduled to go on strike at the Union Stock Yards, in accordance with a vote of their representatives taken at a meeting last night unless the guards were withdrawn from the interior of the yards.

In the absence of Mayor Thompson, his secretary said guards would continue at the packing houses as long as there was likelihood of danger to life and property.

When negroes returned to work in the packing houses yesterday 500 policemen and several hundred deputy sheriffs were assigned to the inclosure, while detachments of soldiers were moved from the scene of the recent race riots to the exterior of the yards.

The white workers objected to the presence of guards although their leaders said they had no objection to working with the negroes. Their objection to "working under surveillance" resulted in a meeting of representatives of the men and the decision to walk out unless the guards were removed.

Calm prevailed in the "black belt" scene of the race riots of last week. Officers in command of the soldiers in the district reported that not even a minor disturbance had taken place between the whites and blacks during the night.

The dispute, according to labor leaders, is over the employment of non-union negroes rather than race hatred. Many of the negroes, it is said, have refused to join the unions. When the white employees reported for work early in the day they demanded that the state troops and police guards which had been stationed at every plant when the negroes returned yesterday be immediately withdrawn. Both the city authorities and the packers declined to accede to this demand. The men walked out quietly. It is said that several thousands of negro non-union workmen remained at their posts.

TROPICAL HURRICANE REPORTED IN CARIBBEAN

Official storm warnings received at the offices of the local weather bureau yesterday afternoon at 4:47 o'clock from Washington advised that there are strong indications of tropical disturbance over the eastern Caribbean sea in approximately longitude 23 and latitude 14 and that it will advance along a westerly course.

NEWS IN BRIEF FROM ALL OVER THE UNIVERSE

Liverpool, Aug. 8.—The strike on tramways of this city was settled today and work will be resumed.

Tulsa, Okla., Aug. 8.—Twenty members of the Tulsa police force struck tonight, demanding eight hours work and increased pay.

Memphis, Aug. 8.—Striking railroad shopmen at a conference today decided not to resume work until assured that wage demands would be met.

Dublin, Aug. 8.—A party of thirty men attacked the police hut at Meino East Claire, with rifle and revolver fire this morning. Police replied vigorously, the fight lasting over an hour.

Atlanta, Ga., Aug. 8.—The Atlanta District Council, Federated Railway Shopmen's Union, at a session late today, adopted resolution stating they would not return to work until their original demands have been met.

Washington, Aug. 8.—The supreme court in petition filed today by the federal trade commission was asked to determine the legality of methods used by the commission for ascertaining whether business organizations under investigation by that body are guilty of using unfair practices in competition. The petition grew out of federal court decision setting aside certain commission orders requiring St. Louis, Vicksburg and New Orleans dealers to desist from certain practices to which the commission objected.

COTTON PRESS CAMPAIGN HAS NOT YET ENDED

Subscriptions Are Yet Needed and Drive Will Be Continued Until Necessary Amount is Raised.

Pensacola needs \$20,000 in stock subscriptions in order to close the deal for the high density cotton press, according to the men who are putting on a city-wide canvass. They expect to complete operations within a week and to give to this city a plant which will compress at least 300,000 bales each cotton season.

There must be rush work in order to obtain the best possible press at the lowest prices, the committee who are busy on the project stated yesterday. It is hoped that the committee will be given sufficient encouragement today when N. S. Grigaly, secretary of the Webb Compress company, returns from Jacksonville, so that in order for the last press which he had to send under old prices may be obtained.

The value of time is stressed by the committee who will take stock subscriptions at room 405 Thiesen building, or over telephone 1784.

Predicting the increased amount of commercial prosperity which will come to Pensacola with the location of the compress here, E. C. Carter said yesterday:

"I have been convinced for a long time that Pensacola needed an independent compress, and more recently I have made extensive investigations as to the advisability of locating a high density compress here, and I must say that there is no report territory within the cotton belt so large and productive as that surrounding Pensacola without a high density press. There is not a part which would do anything like as large an amount of cotton as this part has already done one or more high density presses. Everyone knows if a factory press gets cotton in sufficient quantity it is bound to be a good investment and pay very large

(Continued on Page Three.)

SHOPMEN WILL WORK PENDING NEW AGREEMENT

Reports to Railroad Administration Say Men Are Returning to Jobs All Over Country.

CHICAGO STRIKERS TO MAKE DECISION

Conditions in Middle West and Southern States Are Expected to Be Normal Within 24 Hours.

Washington, August 8.—Reports began to arrive at the railroad administration late today from all over the country saying that striking shopmen were returning to work pending adjustment of wage demands by Hines.

Kansas City and Cincinnati officials expressed belief that normal conditions would prevail tomorrow. At all places where men are out local officials of the railroad administration are cooperating with union chairmen in explaining the necessity for going back to the job at once which Wilson made prerequisite to opening negotiations. Union headquarters were confident that the shopmen would make it almost a hundred per cent return.

Reports to the railroad administration today said that in response to President Wilson's action last night shopmen were rapidly returning to work on the Lackawanna, Baltimore & Ohio, Norfolk & Western, Western Maryland, Rock Island and St. Paul railroads and on the Pennsylvania line west of Pittsburgh.

Chicago, August 8.—John D. Saunders, secretary of the Chicago council of the federated railway shopmen's union, announced today that the executive board of the organization was considering President Wilson's demand that the 300,000 strikers return to work before their request for higher wages will be considered by the federal government. He said the executive board expects to reach a decision by five o'clock tomorrow afternoon. At that time it is said the union will make a formal reply to President Wilson.

President L. M. Sawyer and other officials of the union were in conference behind closed doors considering President Wilson's demands. They refused to discuss the situation but admitted that the question of issuing an order sending the men back to work pending a settlement of the wage controversy by President Wilson and his advisors was receiving serious consideration.

Kansas City, August 8.—Responding to the appeals of the heads of their national organizations, striking railway shopmen of the sixth federated craft at a mass meeting here today voted to return to work immediately.

Springfield, Ill., August 8.—Striking members of the federated carmen's union, affiliated with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, were ordered back to work today.

The order was sent out by John F. Noonan, international vice-president as a result of the decision by President Wilson that settlement of the wage question would be held in abeyance pending return of the railroad workers to their tasks.

"We believe our men now on strike will be back on the job in a very few days in view of the president's attitude," said Mr. Noonan.

FIRST GERMAN WAR BRIDES ARRIVE IN U. S.

New York, August 8.—The first German war bride to come to the United States from Brest, they were aboard the army transport Great States since 1917 arrived here today, included among 245 young women of various nationalities who married American soldiers abroad. The Great States also brought 22 officers, 1,500 troops and 55 welfare workers.

The battleships Wisconsin, Maine, Kentucky, Alabama, Illinois and Kentucky, arrived today with contingents of midshipmen, recent graduates of the United States Academy at Annapolis aboard. They are on a practice cruise. The warships anchored at the North river.

DORMITORIES AT GONZALEZ NOT BE BUILT

School Board Finds Shortage Finances Makes Undertaking Infeasible At This Time.

COMMUNITY PATRONS AGREE TO ACTION

Cottage Hill Sent Delegation to Board Meeting to Urge Construction of Two-Room New Building.

Dormitories for the Smith-Hughes agricultural school, at Roberta-Gonzalez, will not be built this year. The board of public instruction has announced that the body will be in a hole in the expenditure of \$150,000 in time warrants, authorized by the 1919 session of the legislature and the Roberts-Gonzales community has come to the rescue. They offer to wait for dormitory space if the brick is purchased in the very near future as a guarantee of work which will later be done. The board will order an estimate \$15,000 worth of brick to take care of the situation. The lowest bid recently submitted for the construction of the agricultural school is \$15,000.

In a plea for an increase over the \$1,500 fund allowed in the budget for Cottage Hill, D. M. Rudd protested the action of the board in buying bricks to be idle, he said, while the people of his community suffered for school space. "We can not have school in the open air," he said. It is better for the board to take care of our needs than to let \$6,000 worth of bricks lie idle at Roberta-Gonzales. Mr. Rudd was corrected here on his figures, which he had evidently misunderstood. The plan provided for the building of a one-room school at Cottage Hill, with the proviso that residents of the community should add another room at their own expense, if the board found this impossible of accomplishment.

John H. Pace registered a strong kick against the provision, stating that the board had previously gone on record as condemning the practice of building one-room schools. "I will vote my convictions or I will resign from this board tonight," he said. It was explained that the budget for Cottage Hill was made up before the policy against one-room schools was formed.

Mr. Pace also fought the provision that the contract should not specify the length of time for completion of the extra room on the grounds that no member of the board would conceive of such a plan in his own private business.

The motion finally taken and voted upon favorably provided that the board appropriate \$1,500 for the construction of a two-room building at Cottage Hill, one only to be required to be completed by the parties entering the contract, at this time, the other to be completed when needed. Plans and specifications will be decided upon at a conference between W. D. Willis, architect for the board, and citizens of the community. A contract will be entered into with citizens of Cottage Hill, giving bond. Taking of the school census in Pensacola and Escambia county will begin within a very short time, in accordance with the provisions of the new compulsory attendance law for Florida.

The board of public instruction will today probably name both a city and a rural trustee officer. Compensation will also be decided upon at a special meeting.

Applications for the rural job were made last night by Representative J. R. M. Gales, of Ferry Pass; L. Medlock, of Shuff Springs; A. J. Watson, of McDavid; J. E. Rigby, D. M. Rudd, H. Paulsen, former probation officer, and R. M. Merritt.

Three bids for a two-room school at Olive were submitted, but action has been deferred. They were from the Pensacola Construction company, \$6,495; the Southern Construction company, \$4,659, and Hall & Price, \$5,576. An additional transportation truck will be ordered for the use of rural

(Continued on Page Three.)